



Conselho Nacional de Avaliação de Qualidade do Ensino Superior

Webiner: 25 September 2024
Internal Quality Assurance
The African Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ASG-QA):
Implications for Internal Quality Assurance

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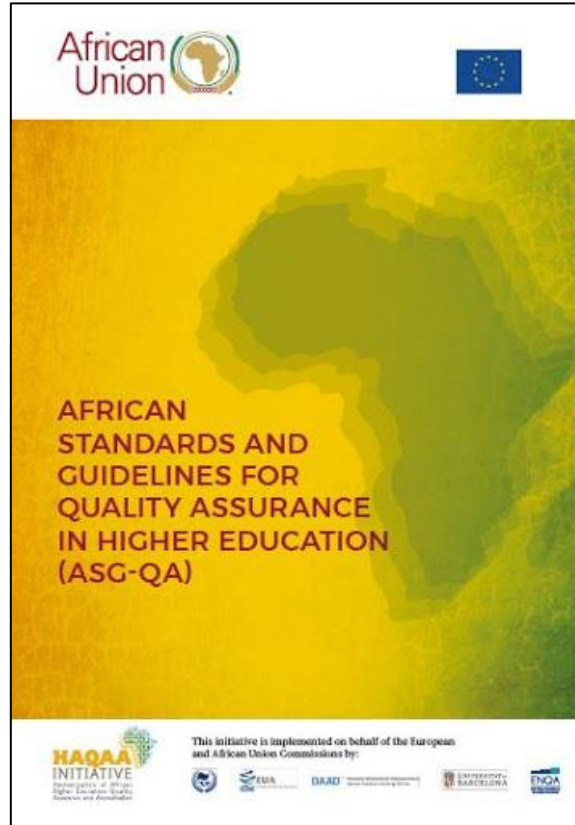
Maputo, 25 September 2024

The Format of the Presentation

- Objective:
 - ✓ Bring key ideas on how ASG QA can enhance the internal quality of HEIs
- Content:
 - ✓ The General Vision of the ASG-QA;
 - ✓ The Purpose of Quality Assurance and the ASG-QA
 - ✓ The Focus of Quality Assurance and the ASG-QA
 - ✓ Scope
 - ✓ Standards: Part A of ASG-QA

ASG-QA in Higher Education

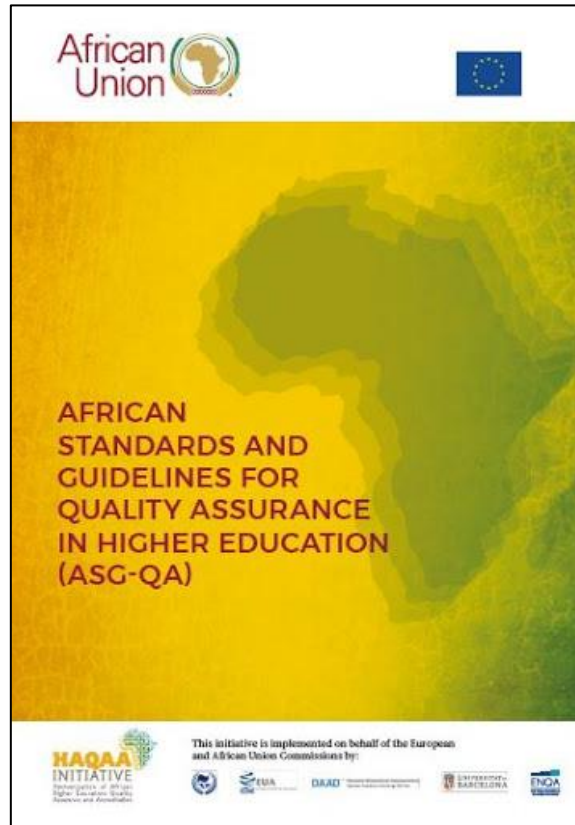
The general Vision



- The ASG-QA set out the quality assurance framework for Higher Education in Africa developed by the TWG under the HAAQA Initiative;
- They are drivers for more professional, transparent and streamlined quality assurance processes both at the level of higher education systems and institutions.
- They are a powerful tool for creating a common language for quality assurance in Africa and establishing a set of shared principles for quality assurance in the African Higher Education Space, namely:

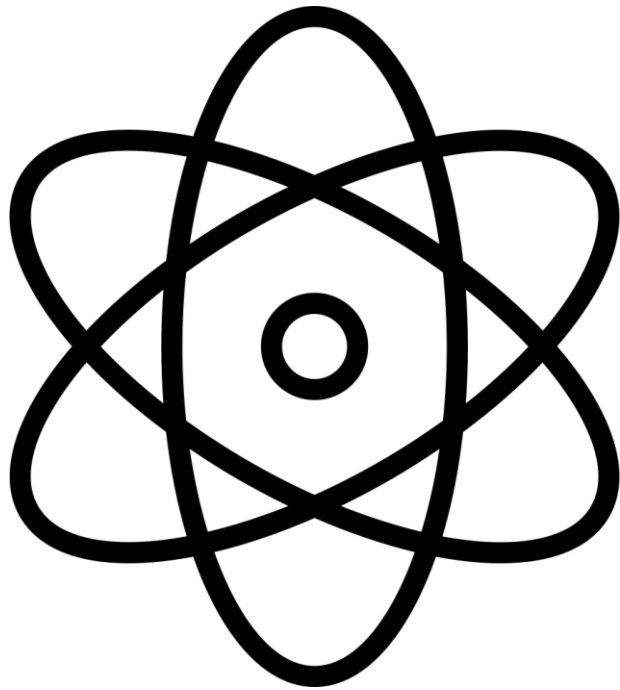
ASG-QA in Higher Education

The general Vision



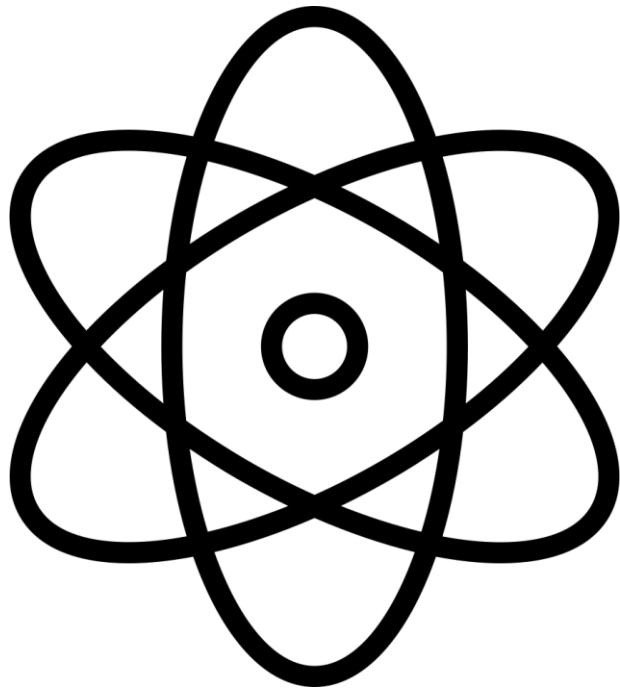
- The primary responsibility of higher education institutions for quality and quality assurance;
- The responsiveness of quality assurance to diversity in higher education;
- The support for quality culture; and
- The central role of stakeholders.

The purpose of quality assurance and the **ASG-QA**



- a) The ASG-QA are a set of standards and guidelines for Internal and External Quality Assurance ;
- b) They are not standards for quality, nor do they prescribe how the quality assurance processes are implemented;
- c) They provide guidance, covering the áreas which are vital for successful quality provision and learning environments in higher education;
- d) They should be considered in a broader contexto that also includes qualifications frameworks and the CATS that also contribute to promoting the transparency and mutual trust in higher education;
- e) The dual purpose of quality assurance as otlined in the ASG-QA, accountability and enhancement;
- f) Promover a competitividade internacional do sistema de ensino superior de África.

The focus of quality assurance and the ASG-QA



- a) The ASG-QA's focus on “quality assurance related to learning and teaching in higher education, including the learning environment and relevant links to research and innovation”
- b) The ASG-QA also call for institutions to develop “policies and processes to ensure and improve the quality of their other activities, such as research and governance”
- c) The ASG-QA further state that they “apply to all higher education offered in Africa regardless of the mode of study or place of delivery.”

Scope of ASG-QA

Application

- ASG-QA Will apply to all types of HEIs in Africa, irrespective of mode of delivery and QAA.
- ASG-QA should be applied taking into account existing qualification frameworks (QFs) and credit accumulation and transfer systems (CATS).

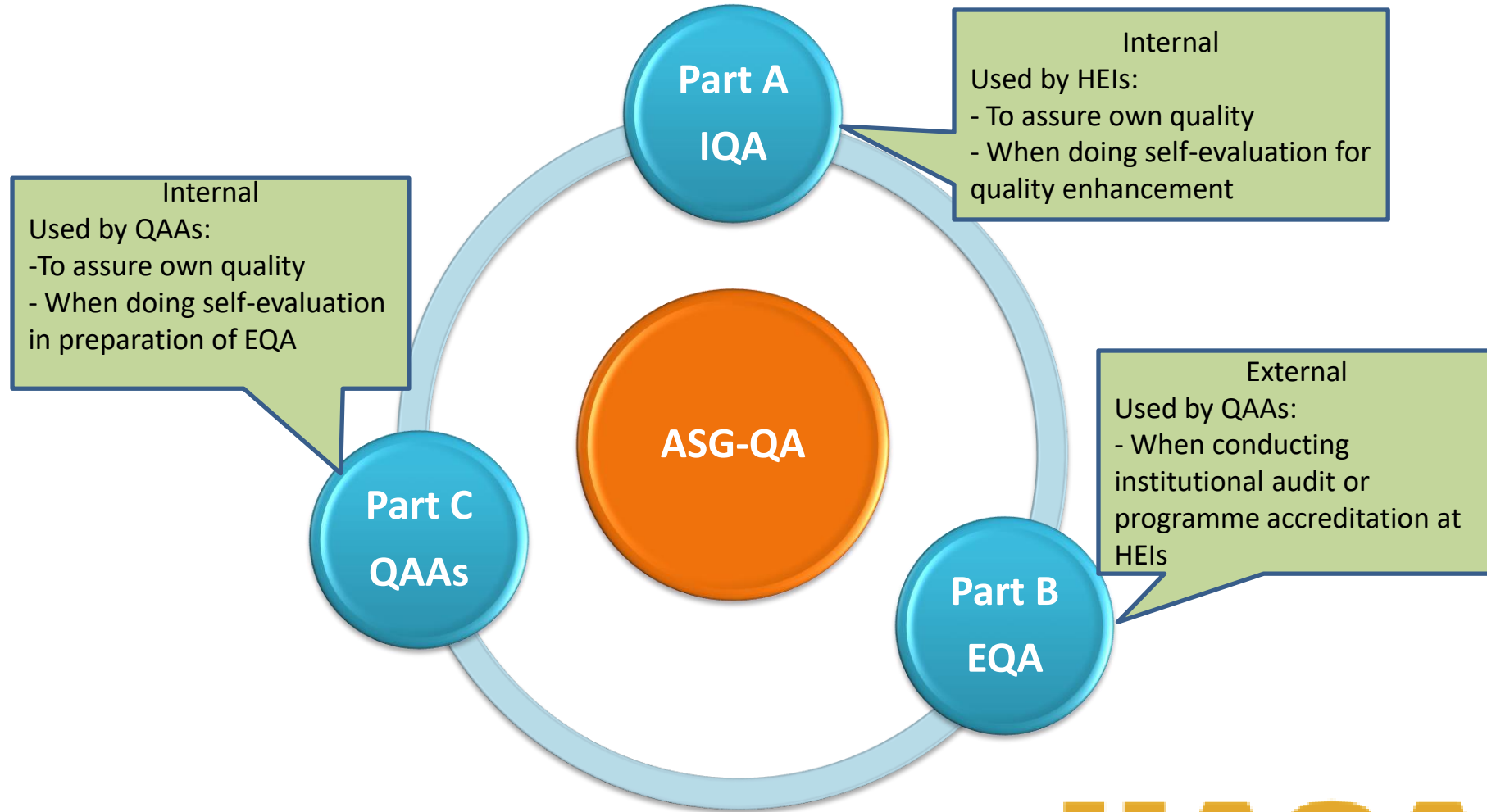
ASG-QA Parts: 3 Parts

- Part A: Internal QA (IQA) of HEIs (including QA for ODL) - 13
- Part B: External QA (EQA) - 7
- Part C: Internal QA (for QAAs) - 8

NB: *The 3 parts are interlinked and together form the basis for an African Quality Assurance Framework (See Fig. 1).*



Fig.1: Inter-linkage



Part A - IQA

Standards and Guidelines for Internal Quality Assurance (for HEIs) –

1. Vision, Mission and Strategic Objectives
2. Governance and Management
3. Human Resources
4. Financial Resource Management
5. Infrastructure and Facilities
6. Student Recruitment, Admission, Certification and Support Services
7. Design, Approval, Monitoring and Evaluation of Study Programmes
8. Teaching, Learning and Assessment
9. Research and Innovation
10. Community Engagement
11. Information Management System
12. Public Communication
13. Collaboration, Staff and Student Mobility

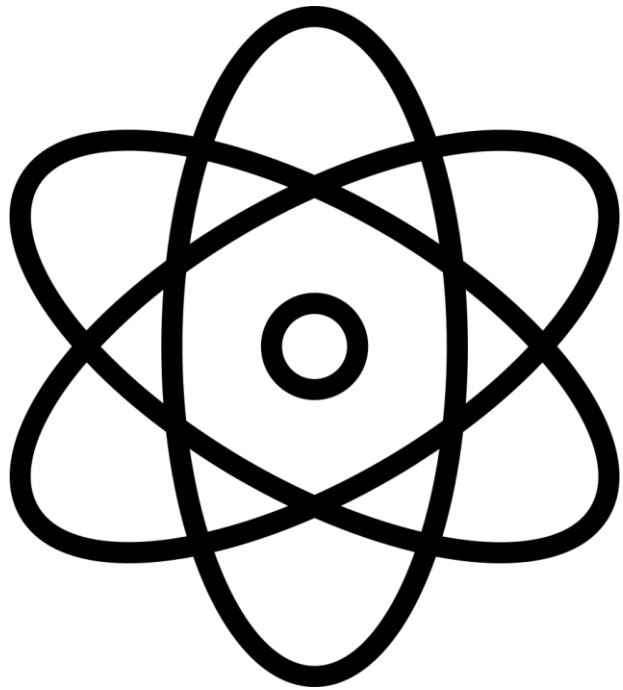


Use of the ASG-QA

- Many of the current key challenges linked to the use of the ASG-QA are related to the interpretation of the ASG and its individual standards.
- The ASG-QA make a clear distinction between standards and guidelines.
- The *standards* set out agreed and accepted practice for quality assurance in higher education in Africa and should, therefore, be taken account of and adhered to by those concerned, in all types of higher education provision.”
- The guidelines, on the other hand only explain why the standard is important and describe how standards *might* be implemented.
- They set out good practice in the relevant area for consideration by the actors involved in quality assurance. *Implementation will vary* depending on different contexts.



The distribution of roles in quality assurance



- a) The primary responsibility for quality and quality assurance of their activities lies with the higher education institutions. This is reflected in the important tasks outlined in Part A of the ASG-QA.
- The role of the quality assurance agencies is to provide assurance to stakeholders, including the public, that the institutions have in place policies and processes to assume this responsibility and to support institutions in this work.

Challenges

1. The language barrier is one of the main hinderances to the collaboration between institutions
2. Inadequate political/leadership support
3. Resistance to change in areas of QA, especially in more established institutions.
4. Inadequate higher education funding to carry out QA activities
5. Inadequate capacity in areas of QA in higher education institutions